

Summary of Basic Policy for the Contaminated Water Issue (decided by Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters on 2013/09/03)

Basic Policy: In order to realize the restoration and revitalization of Fukushima as soon as possible, it is a matter of urgency to fundamentally settle the contaminated water issue.

1. The Government of Japan has determined to play a proactive role in TEPCO's implementing the necessary countermeasures.
2. Beyond the follow-up measures, the preventive and multi-layered measures will be taken through identification of any potential risks.
3. The appropriate measures will be taken through intensive examination in order not to miss new events and to minimize the influence of them.

Government Initiatives

1. Inter-ministerial council

The GoJ establishes "Inter-Ministerial Council for Contaminated Water and Decommissioning Issues" with the chair of Chief Cabinet Secretary under the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters. It aims to mobilize the related technologies and expertise at home and abroad for the earliest and fundamental settlement of the contaminated water issue and to enable the entire Government to implement the necessary countermeasures.

2. Intergovernmental liaison office

The GoJ establishes "Intergovernmental Liaison Office for Contaminated Water Issue and Decommissioning" near the TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi NPS. It aims to strengthen organizational structure, for example, by dispatching liaison staff from the related ministries to the site.

3. Intergovernmental council for coordination

The GoJ establishes "Intergovernmental Council for Fostering Mutual Understanding on the Contaminated Water Issue". It aims to properly responding to the contaminated water issue by strengthening cooperation and coordination among the government and stakeholders such as TEPCO at site and by swiftly responding to the needs of the municipalities and locals, as well as by enhancing information sharing structures and coordination at site.

4. Progress management and risk identification

The GoJ will play a proactive role in managing the process and progress for the sound progress of works on decommissioning and contaminated water countermeasures in addition to strengthening TEPCO's countermeasures. The GoJ will identify all of potential risks through the processes and will constantly consider concrete preventive measures and the way of emergency response utilizing such technical expertise as the Committee on Countermeasures for Contaminated Water Treatment. The timing of the implementation of each measure will be accelerated through consideration of all possible methods such as examinations of the work processes, application and modification of technologies.

5. Financial support

The GoJ will provide budgetary support for the expenditure of the whole project in order to install the land-side impermeable walls by the frozen soil method and to develop the multi-nuclide removal equipment with superior performance.

6. Monitoring activities, prevention of reputational damages, reinforcement of global communications

In order to prevent reputational damages or misinformation, the GoJ will promptly provide the accurate information on the results of observation of radioactive levels in the sea, in addition to reinforcement of open sea monitoring activities. The GoJ will establish the structure for information sharing and coordination among the relevant organizations in order to deliver integrated international public relations.